

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner Mai is thanked for the thorough examination of the subject Patent Application. The Claims have been have been carefully reviewed, several Claims have been amended in response to the Examiner's kind comments, and all Claims are now considered to be in condition for Allowance.

In the specification, the title has been amended to make it more descriptive.

Reconsideration of the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), is requested, in light of the following.

The phrase "sense amplifier" was removed from the claims.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.B. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, is requested, in light of the following.

Claims 13-15 were amended to eliminate confusion and to be definitive as noted by the Examiner and to direct claim 13 to FIG. 3A upon which the original claim 13 and claims 14-15 were directed.

It should be noted that "laying between a first pair of adjacent columns" quoted by the Examiner in the objection to the claims has "two points", which are the adjacent

columns as stated in the claims; however, the claims were amended to more specifically clarify the “two points” between which the bit line and source line are formed.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Kao et al. (US Patent No. 6,211,547), is requested, in light of the following.

Claims 13-15 as filed in the original patent application were directed to FIG. 3a and the associated paragraphs in the specification. The divisional resulting in the present claimed invention combined the original independent claim 8 into the original dependent claim 13 resulting in the independent claim 13 of the present claimed invention. Much of the confusion expressed by the Examiner is a result of the combining of original claims 8 and 13 without dispensing with the “mirror image” columns of FIG. 2A, 2b and 2C and redirecting the new claim 13 of the present claimed invention to FIG. 3A, which has columns of memory cells in which each cell in each column has the same orientation.

Kao et al. describes a semiconductor nonvolatile memory device in which a column of cells have an orientation that is a mirror of adjacent columns. This allows sources of cells in a first two adjacent columns to be connected to a same source line In like manner drains of cells in a second two adjacent columns are connected to a same.

Conversely, in the present claimed invention the cell orientation of all columns of cells is the same. A bit line runs between cells of a first of two adjacent columns of cells

and is connected to the drains of the cells in a first column and the sources of the cells in the second column. In like manner, a source line runs between cells of a second two adjacent columns of cells and is connected to sources of cells located in the first column and to drains located in a third column.

The present claimed invention has a different cell orientation than Kao et al. and Kao et al. does not anticipate the present claimed invention.

All Claims are now considered to be in condition for allowance.

Allowance of all Claims is Requested.

It is requested that should Examiner Mai not find that the Claims are now allowable, that he/she call the undersigned at (845) 452-5863 to overcome any problems preventing allowance.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen B. Ackerman,

Reg. No. 37,761